

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A method of removing bacterial endotoxin from a pharmaceutical process solution containing an amphiphilic pharmaceutical drug or vaccine which method comprises treating the solution with a concentration of an ionic surfactant that is effective to dissociate the endotoxin from the amphiphilic pharmaceutical drug or vaccine in the solution without adversely affecting the properties of the drug or vaccine including its ability to be retained by a filter, and directly thereafter~~thereafter~~ filtering the solution through a molecular weight cut-off filter having a pore size effective to retain the amphiphilic pharmaceutical drug or vaccine substance but allow the dissociated bacterial endotoxin to pass therethrough and wherein the amount of ionic surfactant remaining in said solution is less than 0.01%.
2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutical drug or vaccine comprises a polypeptide.
3. (previously presented) A method according to claim 2, wherein the amphiphilic pharmaceutical drug or vaccine comprises a glycoprotein.
4. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the amphiphilic drug or vaccine is an antigen.
5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the antigen is a viral antigen.
6. (Canceled)

7. (previously presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein the antigen is an influenza antigen.

8. (previously presented) A method according to claim 5, wherein the antigen is a haemagglutinin and/or neuraminidase antigen.

9. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the surfactant is an anionic surfactant.

10. (original) A method according to claim 9, wherein the anionic surfactant has a steroidal structure.

11. (previously presented) A method according to claim 10, wherein the surfactant is a bile salt.

12. (previously presented) A method according to claim 11, wherein the surfactant is a salt selected from the group consisting of salts of deoxycholate, cholate, glycocholate, taurodeoxycholate and taurocholate.

13. (original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the surfactant is deoxycholate (DOC).

14. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the surfactant is present at a concentration which is at least as great as the critical micelle concentration of the surfactant.

15. (original) A method according to claim 14, wherein the surfactant is present at a concentration of from one and a half to five times its critical micelle concentration.

16. (original) A method according to claim 15, wherein the surfactant is present at a concentration of between two and four times its critical micelle concentration.

17. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the molecular weight cut-off filter comprises a regenerated cellulose acetate membrane, or a polysulfone membrane.

18. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein, following removal of the bacterial endotoxin, the process solution is subjected to a further process step in which the surfactant is removed.

19. (original) A method according to claim 18, wherein the further process step comprises subjecting the process solution to dialysis.

20. (canceled)

It is respectfully submitted that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance and favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of these claims are respectfully requested. The dependent claims are believed allowable for the same reasons as the independent claims from which they ultimately depend, as well as for their additional limitations. Should the Examiner require clarification of any of the above, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 12, 2004

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kathy Smith Dias", is written over a horizontal line.

Kathy Smith Dias

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